


In the Official Action, the Examiner required an election of one of the following groups of claims:

- Group I: Claims 9, 17-25, 37-46, and 53-62, drawn to a method for providing service to a user via a network, classified in class 705, subclasses 26 and 53.
- Group II: Claims 26-29, 47-50, and 63-66, drawn to a method for accounting for a fee concerning service provided to a user by a service provider, classified in class 705, subclass 39 and 75.
- Group III: Claims 30-36, 51-52, and 67-68, drawn to a method for requesting service of a service provider and storing service request and digital signature in a storage medium, classified in class 705, subclasses 17 and 41.

In response to the Examiner's restriction requirement, Applicant elects to prosecute the claims of Group I. Accordingly, Claims 26-36, 47-52, and 63-68 in Groups II and III have been cancelled.

Respectfully submitted,

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